

The Independent

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5 Cts.

THE INDEPENDENT

ISSUED EVERY MORNING EXCEPT
SUNDAY, BY

The Independent Association,
Corner Allen & Kekuanua Street (near
Custom House) Honolulu, H. I.

DANIEL LOGAN, Editor.

Residing on Alakea Street in Honolulu.

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May 13.

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Comments by Cosmos.

Since the theater was destroyed
by fire various suggestions re-
garding its reconstruction have
appeared. The most absurd of
which is that the "public" should
rebuild it. Nevertheless the
public badly wants a public hall,
and I most earnestly hope that
the well-to-do proprietors of the
land on which the ruins of the
theater stand will see fit to supply
this want by the erection of a
suitable building on the excellent
site in Union Square.

For a variety of reasons with
which we are all familiar, a full
fledged theater (or Opera House,
as the lovers of high-sounding titles
in small cities call their place of
entertainment) cannot be supported
in Honolulu, and it will never,
so far as we can see, be a paying
investment. There is, however,
no reason why a public hall should
not pay, and it is my opinion that
if a properly constructed building
were erected it would at least give
a decent return on the money in-
vested in it.

Such a hall should be adapta-
ble to all the purposes for which
such place can ever be used in
Honolulu. There should be a
stage for the purpose of theatrical
or musical entertainments, to
which a moderate amount of
scenery and other theatrical
accessories can be added at any
time; then the floor should be
well laid and there should be good
retiring rooms, so that when
Terpsichore took possession of the
premises she would feel comfort-
able and at home. A suitable
room for suppers or refreshments
should be conveniently situated
in the building, and indeed there
might be a kitchen annex, just as
in Central Union Church to be
used as occasion required.

Such a hall would provide us
with a place where public meet-
ings of all kinds, balls, concerts,
theatricals, bazaars and every
other form of entertainment, usual-
ly inflicted on a long-suffering
community like ours, might be
held.

I respectfully present the above
suggestion to Messrs. Spreckels
and Irwin with my anticipatory
thanks for their adoption of it,
and as they are both sensible fel-
lows they are sure to adopt it.

One suggestion more. As the
internal arrangements are of vast-
ly more importance than the ex-
ternal appearance, let the plans
be supplied by a real architect
with some ideas other than a
\$250 book of house designs
supplies.

The mounted police are, I pre-
sume, being gradually—very grad-
ually—licked into shape by their
chief, Captain Cook (and I hope
the process will be perfected be-
fore any member of that august
body licks Captain Cook out of
shape), but when I see them par-
aded I always think of the
mounted police force which was
drilled many years ago by Captain
Haley and Lieutenant Smythe,
and the comparisons I make in
my mind of that short-lived
force with the present organiza-
tion are not very favorable to the
latter.

Haley's boys were picked na-
tives, good horsemen and well
drilled, and they presented a
much smarter and more soldier-
like appearance than do Cook's
myrmidons, who ride like the
dickens—you know how that is—
head stuck out, chest in, shoul-
ders up, feet out, reins held any-
how. For heavens' sake, for

that of your own reputation, Cap-
tain Cook, teach those slouchy
Johnnies of yours how to sit and
ride their horses. I haven't seen
mounted citizens' guard yet, but
if it is composed of Honolulu
boys, as I understand it to be, I
expect they will be able to give
points in horsemanship to the
troop of malihinis and beat them
then.

Captain Cochrane's stereopticon
slide representing a cavalry soldier
might be printed for distribution
among the "force," so that its
members could see how a military
man should look when he is sit-
ting on a horse. But then I'll be
told that our mounted patrol is
not composed of military men,
and it certainly is not—not by a
very large majority.

A mounted policeman, who's worthy the name
Loves officers dashing and strict.
When good, he's content with escaping all
blame,
When naughty he likes to be licked.
He likes for a fault to be bullied and stormed,
Or imprisoned for several days,
And hates, for a duty correctly performed,
To be slavered with sickening praise.

In the published accounts of
Sturday's ludicrous burlesque of
military pageantry (by some
thought to be the shadow of com-
ing events), reference is made to
the long sworded men in kimonos
whose duty it is to decapitate
prisoners, from which it is to be
inferred that the writers of the
accounts in question have not
heard of the great, and almost
completely successful efforts made
by Japan in her recent campaign
to eliminate from her warfare
everything of an illegitimate or
barbarous character, and they
suppose that to every Japanese
army corps a battalion of decapi-
tators is attached whose duty it
is to lop the heads off the harm-
less necessary captives. Needless
to say that such is not the case.
The sworded gentlemen with the
cotton kimonos and heads wrap-
ped in towels were doubtless in-
tended to represent the Samurai
of old Japan, the two-sworded
retainers of the Daimios who used
to carve one another in elegant
style in the auld lang syne of
Dai Nippon.

Apropos of the consideration of
cable projects which we are pro-
mised at the coming legislative
gathering, it may be interesting
to republish the estimated cost of
the Canadian-Australian cable
according to the tenders received
by Mr. Sanford Fleming, whose
visit to Honolulu last year is
fresh in our minds.

The tender for laying the cable
on the Fanning Island route was
\$7,500,000, inclusive of mainten-
ance and repairs for three years
after completion. Mr. Fleming
estimates that the revenue would
exceed the expenditure for the
first three years by \$75,000, and
for the whole of the first ten
years by \$3,700,000.

It is most unfortunate that the
fear of the United States existing
here, and the fear of England's
"aggressive foreign policy" exist-
ing in the United States, threat-
ens to shut out the Hawaiian Is-
lands from the benefits derivable
from being connected with an
ocean cable, no matter who owns
it. However, the way things
political are now I suppose we
must content ourselves with be-
ing out of the world until the
United States takes us under her
wing, and among other gifts pre-
sents us with a cable. When
that time comes where do you
think we who are on this earth
now will be?

Apropos of Russia's interfer-
ence with Japan's little game, it
is interesting to remember that

so far back as Feb. 17 last the
Berlin correspondent of the Lon-
don Standard telegraphed that
the Chinese Special Envoy to
Berlin and St. Petersburg "had
not only to inform himself
minutely as to the intentions and
opinions prevalent there about
the war, but also to bring
about an understanding between
Russia and China, or, at least,
an attitude friendly to China, in
return for certain important con-
cessions."

At the same time it was stated
that leading Russians held that
"the extravagant claims of the
Japanese must be rejected, and
that Russia cannot under any
circumstances allow the indepen-
dence of Korea to be violated, or
any portion of Manchuria to be
annexed by Japan. The condi-
tions of peace must, according to
the Russian view, confine any
annexation of territory to the
island of Formosa with a reason-
able war indemnity."

The S. S. China, on Monday
next, should bring us news as to
the working out of the Russian
policy sketched in the above
quotation.

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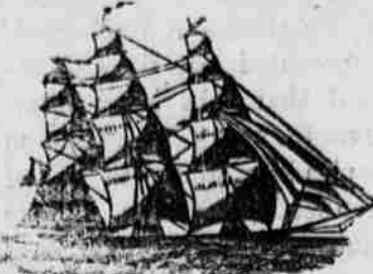
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on or about

May 30th,

And will leave for the above port with Mails
and Passengers on or about that date.

For SYDNEY and AUCKLAND:

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Of the Oceanic Steamship Company will be
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Agents

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Time Table.

LOCAL LINE.

S.S. AUSTRALIA.

Arrive Honolulu Leave Honolulu

from S. F. for S. F.

May 27..... June 3

June 21..... June 24

July 16..... July 20

Aug. 9..... Aug. 14

Sept. 2..... Sept. 7

Oct. 2..... Oct. 7

Nov. 15..... Nov. 20

my 13th.

Through Line.

From San Francisco For Sydney for

ARRIVE HONOLULU LEAVE HONOLULU

Mariposa..... June 6 Arawa..... May 30

Arawa..... July 4 Alameda..... June 27

Alameda..... Aug. 1 Mariposa..... July 25

Mariposa..... Aug. 2 Arawa..... Aug. 22

Arawa..... Sept. 20 Alameda..... Sept. 16

Alameda..... Oct. 24 Mariposa..... Oct. 17

my 13th.

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